

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 R

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AID - MR. JONES

AID - MR. NOOTER

S/S- MR. LUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 124870

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MARR, VS, AFIN

SUBJECT: ICCS FINANCES: FORTHCOMING U.S. CONTRIBUTION

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM STEARNS

REF: A. SAIGON 6962; B. SAIGON 7203

1. DEPARTMENT AND AID/W HAVE BEEN CONSULTING ON TIMING AND AMOUNT OF NEXT EMERGENCY U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO ICCS. AID/W NOW HAS ADEQUATE FUNDS IN SA ACCOUNT TO PROVIDE "SECOND TRANCHE" CONTRIBUTION OF DOLS 2.3 MILLION ON OR ABOUT JUNE 14, AND PLANNING IS PROCEEDING ON THAT BASIS. THIS AMOUNT WILL PROBABLY BE ALL THAT IS AVAILABLE PRIOR TO CR FUNDS WHICH MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL LATTER PART OF JULY, AND ICCS DISBURSEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE WITH THAT IN MIND.

2. HOWEVER, AS STEARNS HAS MENTIONED TO YOU BY TELEPHONE, WE WISH TO MAKE SURE THAT NONE OF THIS DOLS 2.3 MILLION WILL BE USED TO REIMBURSE DELEGATIONS FOR PER DIEM EXPENSES SINCE STATE AND AID NOTIFICATIONS TO THE CONGRESS IN MAY
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1974 STATED THAT THESE EMERGENCY PAYMENTS WOULD BE TO MEET

U.S. CONTRACTOR COSTS FOR THE MOST ESSENTIAL OPERATIONS OF THE COMMISSION THROUGH FY-1974. DOLS 2.3 MILLION WILL THEREFORE BE MADE AVAILABLE WITH THE SPECIFIC LIMITATION

THAT THEY CAN ONLY BE USED TO FUND U.S. CONTRACTOR SERVICES. WE LEAVE TO YOUR DISCRETION HOW BEST TO ASSURE THAT ICCS USES THE DOLS 2.3 MILLION ACCORDINGLY.

3. CONCERNING OUR "FIRST TRANCHE" EMERGENCY CONTRIBUTION OF DOLS 1.2 MILLION, CAN YOU NOW INFORM US WHETHER THE ICCS HAS DISBURSED ANY PORTION OF THIS TO REIMBURSE DELEGATION PER DIEM EXPENSES AND, IF SO, WHAT AMOUNT (PARA 2 REF A)? IF REIMBURSEMENT NOT ALREADY MADE, YOU SHOULD URGE ICCS TO APPLY THESE FUNDS INSTEAD TO CONTRACTOR BILLS. (FYI. PA AND E REPS HERE HAVE TOLD US THAT COMPANY RECEIVED ONLY DOLS 50,000 OF ANTICIPATED ADDITIONAL DOLS 100,000 PAYMENT, PARA 1 REF A). IF PER DIEM REIMBURSEMENT HAS BEEN MADE, WE SUGGEST YOU INVESTIGATE WITH THE ICCS THE POSSIBILITY OF IDENTIFYING A LIKE AMOUNT OF FUNDS WHICH ICCS MAY HAVE IN HAND AND WHICH COULD BE USED IMMEDIATELY TO MAKE ADDITIONAL PAYMENTS TO CONTRACTORS.

4. LOOKING AHEAD TO FY-1975, WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE ICCS UNDERSTAND COMPLETELY THE U.S. PAYMENTS MUST HENCEFORTH BE APPLIED ONLY TO CONTRACTOR EXPENSES UNTIL SUCH TIME AS OTHER CONTRIBUTORS TO ICCS MAKE THEIR PRO-RATA PAYMENTS. AS IN THE CASE OF OUR FY-1974 EMERGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS, THIS WILL BE OUR RATIONALE FOR APPROPRIATED FUNDS REQUESTED FOR FY-1975. ANY REIMBURSEMENT OF DELEGATION EXPENSES WILL HAVE TO COME FROM FUNDS PROVIDED BY OTHER PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THIS RUNS THE RISK OF INCREASING MALAISE AMONG THE DELEGATIONS, BUT WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THEY UNDERSTAND EXACTLY THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF OUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE COMMISSION. THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS IN PARTICULAR SHOULD BE PREPARED TO USE THEIR INFLUENCE WITH DRV/PRG TO MAKE UP DELINQUENCIES IN THEIR ASSESSED PAYMENTS. SISCO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, CONTRACTS, DEBTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE124870
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RHWENZEL:AOA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740152-0170
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740651/aaaabrmz.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: A. SAIGON 6962; B. SAIGON 7203
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Aug-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ICCS FINANCES: FORTHCOMING U.S. CONTRIBUTION FOR AMBASSADOR FROM STEARNS
TAGS: MARR, AFIN, VS, ICCS
To: SAIGON
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005